



**Karen Booth**  
Director of Transforming  
Congregations

## Dear Supporters of Transforming Congregations,

*"I wish we had more time. There was so much to learn!"* I hear that every time I present our "Moving Forward in Ministry" workshop. Whether it's a "standing room only" crowd at last month's Love Won Out (LWO) conference or a small interactive group at a half-day event, attendees leave grateful for the practical knowledge they received. They are also encouraged to try out this information in hands-on ministry.

The workshop's six-step ministry model has been constantly fine-tuned since its creation in 2004, and now it covers most of the basics: Assessing a church's motivation and its commitment to purity and prayer; Understanding the needs of sexual strugglers, their family and friends; Developing a safe environment through healthy, holy relationships; Educating the congregation about all the above; Counting the cost and; Gathering resources and launching ministry.

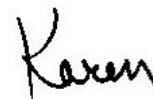
Transforming Congregations' merger with Exodus last summer has broadened the exposure of the above ministry model. Adding the "Moving Forward in Ministry" workshop to the LWO equipping track and including portions of it in the forthcoming Exodus Church Association handbook is a testimony to our success. And those who "get" this ministry model aren't only

informed by it. They're transformed!

As one United Methodist pastor put it, *"I realized my attitudes toward gays and lesbians needed to change. After the workshop, I'll have more confidence — and much more compassion — talking with a same-sex couple in my church."*

I thank God that TC is meeting the real needs of church leaders so they can minister more effectively to people searching for answers about sexuality and faith. But we still need to do so much more! Won't you help by supporting our efforts to make our workshop and other valuable resources more available and in formats like DVDs, online videos and podcasts? Your generous financial gift to Transforming Congregations can make a real difference in The United Methodist Church, the Mainline church and the entire Body of Christ.

To host a TC "Moving Forward in Ministry" workshop in your church or at your conference, contact Karen Booth at [kbooth@exodusinternational.org](mailto:kbooth@exodusinternational.org) or 608-325-5712. Love Won Out conferences are scheduled for June 26 in Irvine CA and September 25 in Rockford IL. Contact Karen Eaglin at [keaglin@exodusinternational.org](mailto:keaglin@exodusinternational.org) to explore scheduling a LWO event in your local area.



P.S. Please see note on the back about future letters and updates.

## Transforming Congregations Ministry Update

Rev. Tom Lambrecht from Greenville, WI has joined our TC Advisory Council. He served several years as President of both the Board of Good News and the former TC Board, and in 2008 he led the Renewal Coalition's legislative effort at General Conference. Welcome, Tom!

Karen traveled cross country this quarter, visiting potential and supporting churches in PA, CA and NJ. A local WI church invited her to speak at their Lenten missions fair, and the end of April she'll do a Q&A session about "the church and homosexuality" at another local WI congregation. To find out how your congregation can get more involved or join the Exodus Church Association, contact her at 608.325.5712 or [kbooth@exodusinternational.org](mailto:kbooth@exodusinternational.org).

TC continues to make stronger connections with several seminaries. We've been invited to submit a formal proposal for a weeklong teaching component on human sexuality with one school. If approved, it would be a "dream come true" and a potential pilot project for other schools. We've explored doing a similar series of continuing education events for clergy and

laity at another seminary, and one of their professors will write an important book review for us later this spring.

This year's Exodus Freedom Conference Moving Forward! (June 23-26 at Concordia University, Orange County CA) will celebrate 35 years of faithful ministry to Christians impacted by unwanted homosexuality. Attendees will unite together for awesome worship, solid Biblical teaching, and Spirit-led prayer and ministry. Karen will be presenting a new TC workshop "How Far is Too Far?" about how to do outreach to sexual strugglers with a balance of grace and truth. For more information or to register online, visit [exodusfreedom.org](http://exodusfreedom.org).

The Association for Church Renewal will present "Answering the Call: New Life in the Mainline Church" at Elmhurst College, IL, from August 5-8. Geared toward a new generation of college and seminary students, it will give them practical tools for effective and faithful leadership in the Mainline church, including TC's newest workshop "How Far is Too Far?" See [associationforchurchrenewal.com](http://associationforchurchrenewal.com) for more information.

**YES!** I want to help Exodus continue offering hope and healing to those seeking freedom from homosexuality.

Enclosed is my gift of:

- \$25    \$50    \$100    \$250    \$500  
 \$\_\_\_\_\_ (other)

**Thank you for partnering with us!**

I have made changes to my mailing address below.

Checks should be made out to **Exodus International**. To designate the gift towards the work of Transforming Congregations, please write **Transforming Congregations** in the **memo** of your check. General gifts will go where most needed.

- Please designate my gift to Transforming Congregations.  
 Please charge to my credit card (use form on back).  
 Please sign me up to receive the monthly electronic Exodus newsletter

My e-mail address: \_\_\_\_\_

- Please delete me from your mailing list. [Note: You may receive additional issues of the Impact due to the timing of our mailing cycles.]

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[exodusbooks.org](http://exodusbooks.org)  
[exodusyouth.net](http://exodusyouth.net)

## Projects & Giving Opportunities

### Workshops and Speaking Engagements

We will be visiting various churches, conferences and seminaries this year to bring the Biblical message of how churches can minister truth and freedom to the sexually confused, broken and sinful. We'll also continue to present our workshop "Foundations for Ministry" at local church events and conferences. Speakers will teach, answer questions, and share helpful resources. If you'd like to schedule a speaker or workshop, please contact us!

### Developing Resources for Churches and Ministry Leaders

Directors of Transforming Congregations, OnebyOne, and Exodus' Church Equipping Division will be developing a comprehensive package of resources for local churches, pastors, ministry leaders, and students. We get many requests for such resources, and they are vital to the Church's education and training efforts.

### Reaching Our Youth

Exodus International is the only ministry that has materials, videos, and a website for teenagers and young adults who struggle with unwanted same-sex attraction. We want to help promote these resources to our churches.

### Networking and Advocacy

TC will continue to network with renewal and reform groups within The United Methodist Church (UMC) and in the Mainline to advocate for traditional policies and teaching about marriage and human sexuality. As a member of the UMC Renewal Coalition, we will continue to strategize toward General Conference 2012 and will help create legislation to present there and on the Annual Conference level.

### Exodus Freedom Conference '10

TC, OnebyOne and Exodus' Church Equipping Division will be encouraging and training pastors, ministry leaders, and church members at the Exodus Freedom Conference, June 23-26 in Irvine, CA. Each year hundreds of men and women who have chosen to surrender their sexuality to God have experienced God's healing presence in their lives through fellowship, worship, and teaching. This year there will be a special program for church leadership on Friday evening and a unique workshop track on Saturday. Why not plan now to attend this life-changing gathering!



### What is the Exodus Church Association?

The Exodus Church Association is a referral network of caring communities sharing a common cause. These churches share a redemptive biblical worldview on the issue of homosexuality and are committed to being safe places of worship for those dealing with unwanted same-sex attractions.

Your partnership with Exodus International is essential to our mission to mobilize the Body of Christ to minister grace and truth to a world impacted by homosexuality. To learn more about becoming a part of the ECA, visit our website at [www.ExodusChurchAssociation.org](http://www.ExodusChurchAssociation.org).

## around the church

On March 3 the city of Washington began to issue same-sex marriage license applications. The same day, thirteen clergy from Dumbarton United Methodist Church (UMC) publicly vowed to conduct homosexual weddings. Denominational policy forbids pastors from performing such unions, and disobedience is a chargeable offense. Liberal area colleagues and a pro-gay Bishop, however, may refuse to hold any of them accountable.

Dumbarton's statement "Commitment to Marriage Equality" is available at [www.dumbartonumc.org/CommitmenttoMarriageEquality.pdf](http://www.dumbartonumc.org/CommitmenttoMarriageEquality.pdf). The church is a member of the Reconciling Ministries Network, an unofficial caucus that seeks "full participation of people of all sexual orientations and gender identities" in the life of the church.

For information about how to support and defend the UMC's Biblical position on human sexuality, see *Staying the Course* by Maxie Dunnam and Newton Malony. Out of print, the book is still available through Amazon and abebooks.com.

Last November, a national group of evangelical Protestant, Catholic and Orthodox leaders issued *The Manhattan Declaration: A Call to Christian Conscience*. Now with over 435,000 signatures, it challenges believers to culturally contend for the dignity of all human life, for the protection of traditional marriage, and for the preservation of religious liberty. Read it, sign on, or download resources (including church petitions and study guides) at [www.manhattandeclaration.org](http://www.manhattandeclaration.org).



**Future Updates and Newsletters.** You will continue to receive letters from Karen and you will be added to the Exodus monthly *Impact* newsletter as well.

Exodus also offers an electronic newsletter, the *e-Impact*, that can be sent to your e-mail address. Please sign up on the contributor card by giving us your e-mail address so we can add you to those monthly updates.

**Contacting Karen Booth and Transforming Congregations.** Karen can be reached directly at (608) 325-5712 or by e-mail at [kbooth@exodusinternational.org](mailto:kbooth@exodusinternational.org).

**Partnering Financially with Exodus International.** Exodus International is a member of the Evangelical Council for Financial Accountability (ECFA). Our membership is an outward expression of our inner resolve to represent the truth and integrity in all aspects of our ministry. All donations to Exodus are tax deductible. We offer convenient and secure methods for supporting our ministry. You may donate through the card you received with this edition of the Impact Partner Letter, or online through the [ExodusBooks.org](http://ExodusBooks.org) website. Please contact us about monthly donations, or donations of assets at (407)599-6872.

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Dear Transforming Congregations and Exodus,

Please pray for: \_\_\_\_\_

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